



Cambridge Police Department BridgeStat

May 2013

Produced by the Crime Analysis Unit



Part I Total Crime

Serious crime in Cambridge in 2013 has experienced a significant decrease of **21%** from the first five months of 2012, and when measured against the 5-year weighted average for this same time frame, an 18% decline (**244 fewer crimes than the average**) has been recorded. The majority of the decrease from 2012 to 2013 can be attributed to the overall drop in larceny (**-18%**), with 178 fewer thefts reported when compared with the same time period of 2012.

- A detailed analysis of all statistics indicates that there were **256 fewer property crimes recorded in the first five months** of 2013, which translates to a **21% decrease** when measured against the 2012 statistics. **Violent crime has fallen 22% between January 1st and June 3rd of 2013 when compared with 2012.**
- According to the FBI's *Preliminary Annual Uniform Crime Report*, released on June 1st, 2013, the nation experienced a 1.2 percent increase in the number of violent crimes and a 0.8 percent decline in the number of property crimes in 2012 when compared with data from 2011.

	4 Week Snapshot			Year to Date			Five Year	
	4/9 - 5/6	5/7 - 6/3	Change	2012	2013	Change	Avg	Change
Total Violent Crime	33	17	-48%	171	134	-22%	165	-19%
Total Property Crime	188	195	4%	1229	973	-21%	1186	-18%
Total Part I Crime	221	212	-4%	1400	1107	-21%	1351	-18%



Part I Property Crime

Property crime is registering a 21% decrease below the number reported during this time frame in 2012, and an 18% drop from the five-year average. The majority of the larceny categories saw increases over the past four weeks, but in the long-term view, these categories are still registering decreases. Burglary is down 30% from 2012 and 22% from the five-year weighted average.

	4 Week Snapshot			Year to Date			Five Year	
	4/9 - 5/6	5/7 - 6/3	Change	2012	2013	Change	Avg	Change
Burglary	23	28	22%	202	142	-30%	183	-22%
Commercial Break	4	6	50%	28	21	-25%	33	-36%
Housebreak	19	22	16%	174	121	-30%	150	-19%
Larceny	155	160	3%	974	796	-18%	943	-16%
Larceny (Misc)	0	1	IN-CALC	18	8	-56%	14	-43%
Larceny from Building	43	22	-49%	162	169	4%	163	4%
Larceny from MV	36	28	-22%	268	192	-28%	286	-33%
Larceny from Person	19	31	63%	158	134	-15%	138	-3%
Larceny from Residence	7	15	114%	105	60	-43%	85	-29%
Larceny of Bicycle	23	25	9%	97	75	-23%	80	-6%
Larceny of Plate	1	3	200%	13	8	-38%	17	-53%
Larceny of Services	2	4	100%	4	11	175%	8	38%
Shoplifting	24	31	29%	149	139	-7%	152	-9%
Auto Theft	10	7	-30%	53	35	-34%	60	-42%
Total Property Crime	188	195	4%	1229	973	-21%	1186	-18%



Part I Violent Crime

- The projected 5-year weighted average for violent crime in Cambridge for the first five months of the year is 165 incidents. For the period between January and June 3rd of 2013, **there were 134 violent crimes recorded in the City, 37 incidents (-22%) below last year and 31 violent crimes (-19%) under the total of 165 forecasted by the five-year average for this period.**
- The first two murders of the year were recorded in April. A complete synopsis of these incidents can be found on the next slide. **All of the other violent crimes: Rape (-25%), Robbery (-8%), and Aggravated Assault (-28%) registered notable declines when compared with the totals for the first five months of 2012.**

	<u>4 Week Snapshot</u>				<u>Year to Date</u>				<u>Five Year</u>	
	4/9 - 5/6	5/7 - 6/3	Change		2012	2013	Change		Avg	Change
Homicide	1	0	-100%		1	2	100%		1	100%
Rape	2	0	-100%		12	9	-25%		12	-25%
Robbery	17	6	-65%		49	45	-8%		53	-15%
Commercial Robbery	4	0	-100%		8	7	-13%		9	-22%
Street Robbery	13	6	-54%		41	38	-7%		44	-14%
Aggravated Assault	13	11	-15%		109	78	-28%		99	-21%
Total Violent Crime	33	17	-48%		171	134	-22%		165	-19%



MURDER

No Patterns

- **There have been two murders reported in Cambridge over the first five months of 2013. Both were recorded during the month of April:**
- On April 10th, Aisling Brady McCarthy was charged with murder in the death of a Cambridge child who died in January. McCarthy was the child's nanny and was arrested after the death of Rehma Sabir of Cambridge, who was hospitalized with severe head injuries on her first birthday and died two days later.
- On April 18th, Cambridge Police received reports of shots fired on the MIT campus. At 10:30 p.m., an MIT police officer was found shot in his vehicle in the area of Vassar and Main Streets. Officer Sean Collier, 27, was found with multiple gunshot wounds. He was transported to Massachusetts General Hospital and pronounced deceased. Authorities launched an immediate investigation into the circumstances of the shooting and determined that two males were involved. The case is being investigated by local, state, and federal authorities working in cooperation. The investigation remains active and ongoing.
- Preliminary statistics released on 6/1/13 by the FBI reveal that Murder increased by 1.5% in the United States in 2012.
- Five (5) of the fifteen (15) murders in Cambridge between 2002 and 2012 were committed during the month of June.
- The following two slides contain a chronological listing of all unsolved murders in Cambridge since 1999 .

Change*

Last 4 Weeks

***IN -CAL**

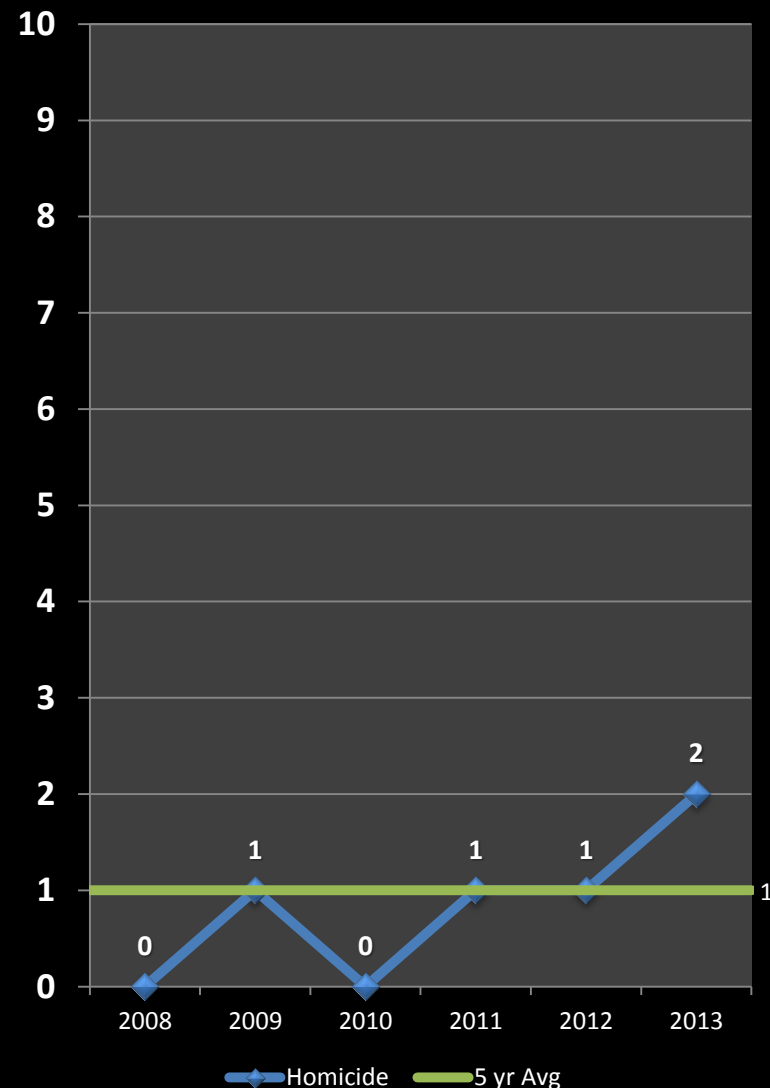
Previous Year

***IN -CAL**

5 Year Average

***IN -CAL**

*IN -CAL: Percentages are not calculated for numbers so small as to present a statistically misleading percentage.





Unsolved Murders: 1999 to 2012

Cambridge Police BridgeStat

Colin Burton, 30, of Dorchester, was shot and killed outside of Hi - Fi Pizza on Mass Ave in Central Square on September 18th, 1999. Burton was talking with the occupants of a Ford Explorer when the subject in the passenger seat fired through the window. Two suspects fled the scene. The case remains under active investigation.



September 18, 1999, Mass Ave



April 5 , 2002, Mass Ave

Ian Gray, 19, of Mattapan, was in an argument outside of the Rhythm & Spice restaurant that spilled out onto Mass Ave. A suspect that had left the scene returned with a group of people and a fight ensued. A knife was produced during the altercation and four gunshots were fired, fatally wounding Gray. This case remains open

On June 17th, 2002 at 7:00PM, **Ricardo Williams**, 27, of Malden, was found in the driver's seat of a motor vehicle suffering from a gunshot wound to his face. Williams was taken to CCH where he was pronounced dead. This case remains open.



June 17, 2002, Windsor St.

Anyone with information about these crimes is asked to contact CPD at 617-349-3370.



Unsolved Murders: 1999 to 2012

Jason Ellcock, 33, of Malden, formerly of Cambridge and father of three, was found with multiple gunshot wounds in front of the driveway to 364 Rindge Ave at 3:05 AM on the night of June 16th, 2009. He was pronounced dead at the scene. This incident remains under investigation.



June 16, 2009, Rindge Ave



March 12, 2011, Brookline St.

James Lauture, 30, of Cambridge, was sitting in a vehicle near Brookline and Watson Streets just after midnight on Saturday, March 12th, 2011, when an unknown gunman opened fire. The occupants in the car were able to drive to Central Square. Lauture died from multiple gunshot wounds. The other man in the vehicle survived. This case remains open.

On June 3rd, 2012, **Charlene Holmes**, 16, of Cambridge was shot while sitting on a porch on Willow Street. She later succumbed to her wounds at the hospital. The investigation into this incident remains active, but no arrests have been made to date.



June 3, 2012, Willow St

Anyone with information about these crimes is asked to contact CPD at 617-349-3370.



RAPE

No Patterns

- Over the first five months of 2013, nine rapes were reported, three fewer incidents than for the same period in 2012, which translates to a 25% reduction when compared to both last year and to the five-year average for sexual assaults.
- During the first two months of the year, there were three reports of rape between family members and acquaintances.
- The first and only stranger-to-stranger rape of the year was recorded in March. This incident involved a blitz type scenario late at night in Central Square. This case remains under investigation.
- The seventh rape of the year occurred on March 30th in the vicinity of Central Square and was a sexual assault between two homeless subjects who were acquaintances.
- No rapes were reported in the past four weeks.
- Preliminary statistics released on 6/1/13 by the FBI reveal that Rape decreased by 0.3% in the United States in 2012.

May
2013

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

-100%

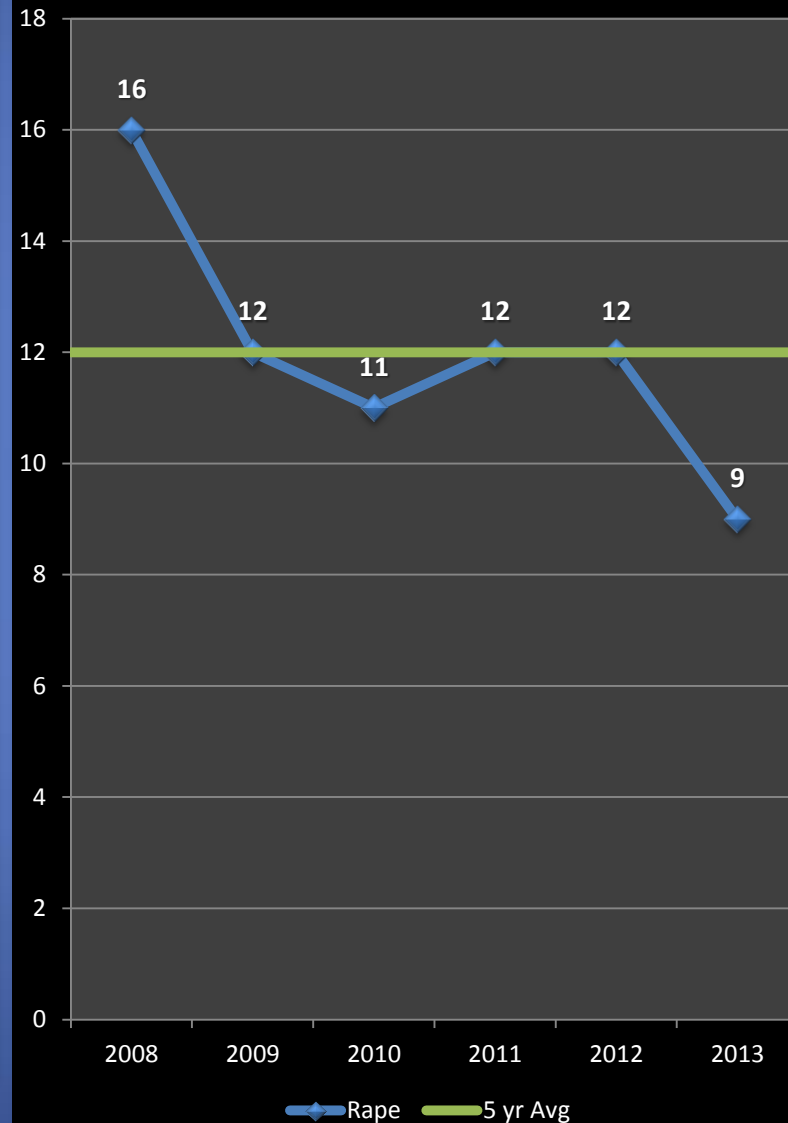
Previous Year

-25%

5 Year Average

-25%

*IN -CAL: Percentages are not calculated for numbers so small as to present a statistically misleading percentage.





AGGRAVATED ASSAULT

No Patterns

- When compared to the first five months of 2012, aggravated assaults recorded a substantial decrease of 28%, with 31 fewer incidents registered in 2013. When measuring this violent index crime against the five-year average for the time period between January and May, there has been a decline of 21%, with 21 fewer crimes below the projected average of 99 aggravated assaults.
- Preliminary statistics released on 6/1/13 by the FBI reveal that Aggravated Assault increased by 2% in the United States in 2012.

Breakdown of Assault Classification types for the first five months of 2013:

Type	Number	% of Total
Domestic	31	40%
Bar /Alcohol	9	12%
Police Officer	6	8%
Homeless	6	8%
Road Rage	6	8%

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

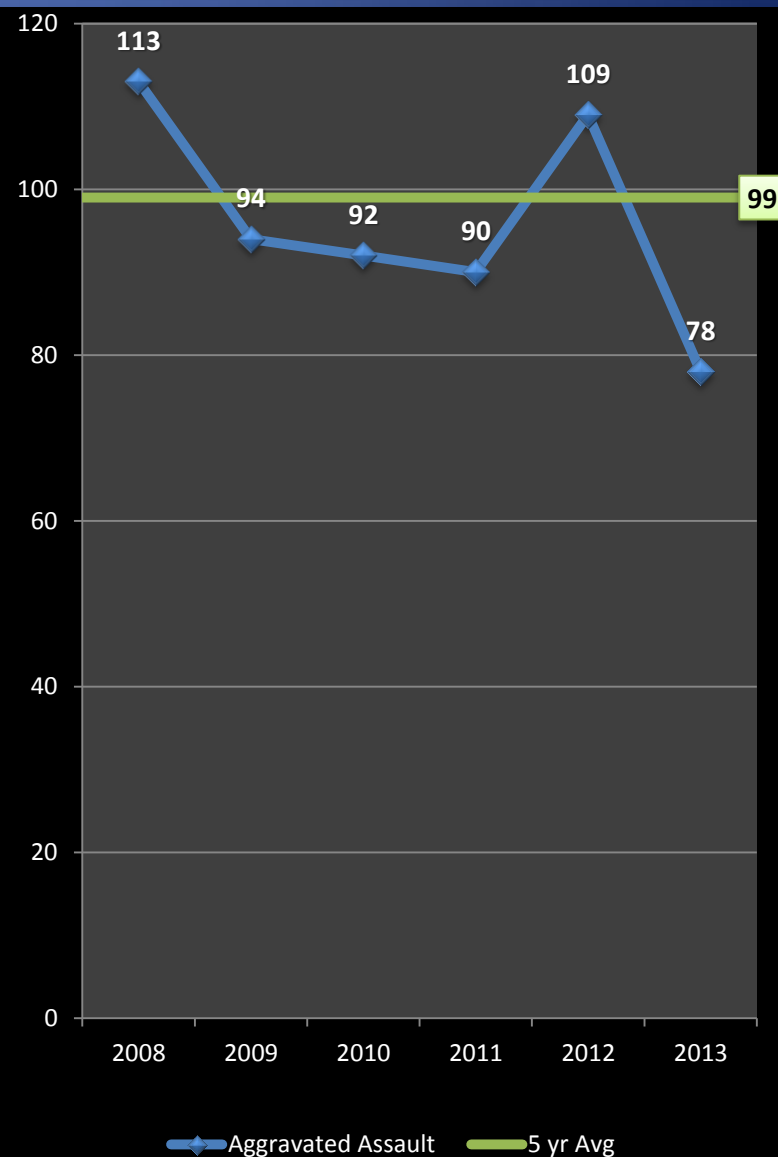
-15%

Previous Year

-28%

5 Year Average

-21%





Gunshot Incident in North Cambridge on May 8, 2013

On 5/9/13, the following Citizen Alert was sent out to North Cambridge residents:

CITIZEN ALERT: Cambridge Police Investigate Gunshots at Jefferson Park

May 9, 2013 – At approximately 10:40PM on 5/8/2013, Cambridge Police responded to reports of gunshots in the area of Jefferson Park in North Cambridge.

There are currently no reported injuries or victims, but Cambridge Police did recover multiple spent shell casings at the scene.

All indications at this point in the investigation are that this incident was not random in nature.

A possible suspect vehicle, described as a silver or grey minivan, was seen fleeing the area.

The investigation into this incident is ongoing and information from the community is critical to solving these types of crimes. Anyone with information is asked to call Cambridge Police at 617-349-3300.

Those who wish to provide information anonymously may dial the Cambridge Police Anonymous Crime Tip Hotline at 617-349-3359 and leave a message. Anonymous tips may also be sent via text message to 847411. Begin your text with TIP650 and then type your message. To send anonymous tips via email, visit www.CambridgePolice.org/Tips.

A Cambridge male was arrested on 5/16/13 in connection with this incident and a firearm was recovered.



ROBBERY

No Patterns

- The five-year average for overall robbery in Cambridge for the first five months of the year is 53 incidents. From January 1st to the 3rd of June, 45 robberies were reported to register a 15% decline below the projected total.
- Overall robberies plummeted from 17 in April down to 6 in May of 2013 (65% decrease). There were no commercial robberies in the past month and street robberies fell from 13 to 6 total incidents.
- Street robberies have fallen 14% when measured against the five-year average, down six crimes from the projected total of 44 incidents. When compared with the first five months of 2012, there has been an 7% decrease from 41 to 38 street robberies.
- There have been only seven commercial robberies (at two convenience stores, two banks, a drug store, and two retail establishments) so far in 2013. Arrests have been made in four of these incidents.

May
2013

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

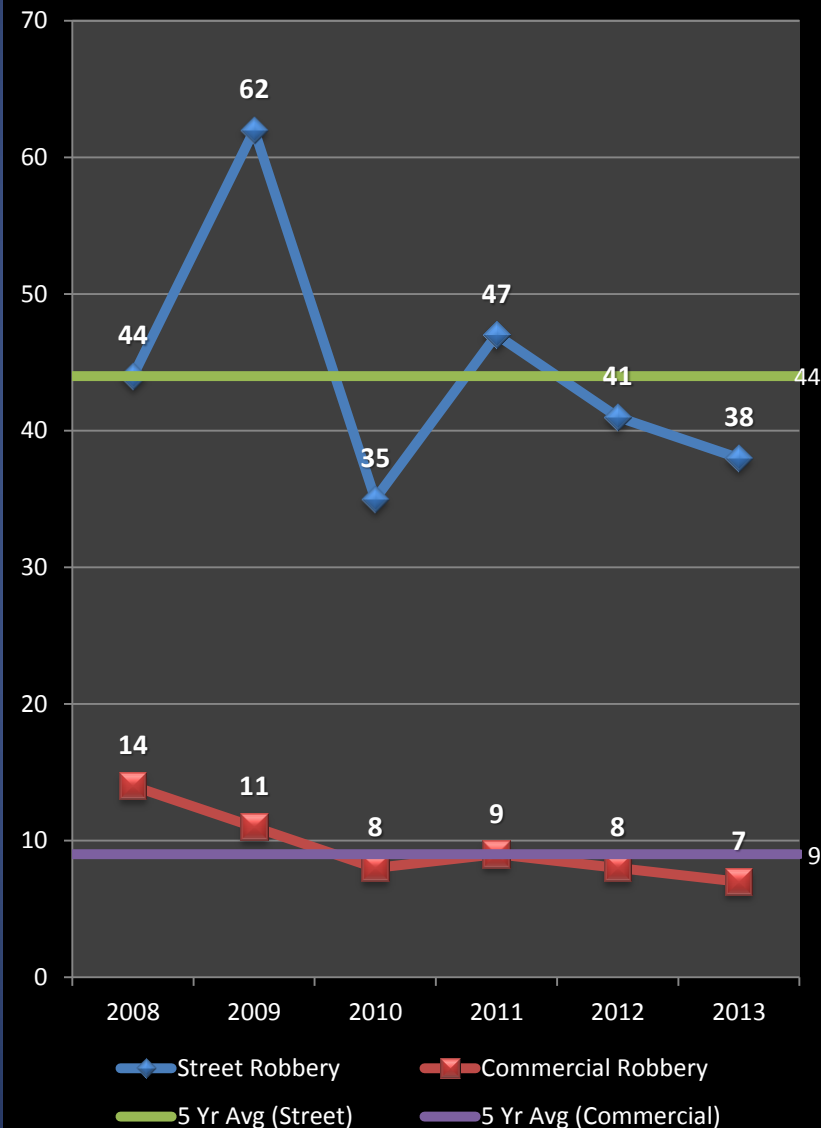
-65%

Previous Year

-8%

5 Year Average

-15%



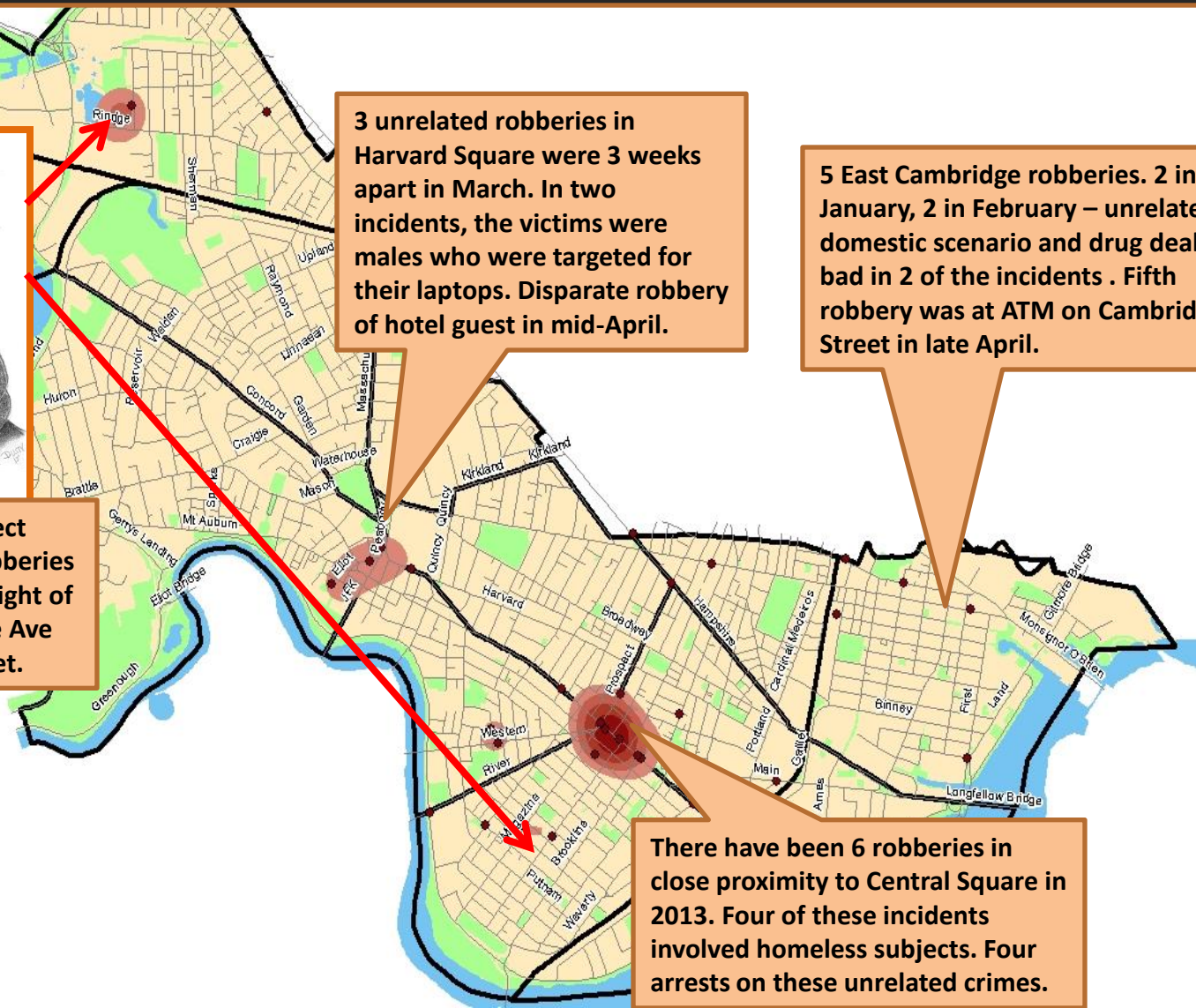


Street Robbery Activity, 1/1/13 – 6/3/13

When compared with the first five months of 2012, there has been a 7% drop from 41 to 38 robberies targeting individuals. The majority of street robberies have been scattered and unrelated. There were two similar robberies with a handgun on the night of May 13th at Russell Field and Magazine St. The sketch below is of one of the two suspects involved in these robberies.



Composite of suspect involved in two robberies with handgun on night of May 13th on Rindge Ave and Magazine Street.





If you have any information about the identity of these persons from two commercial robberies in Cambridge during April, please contact the CPD.



Armed Robbery

April 18, 2013

Cambridge: Convenience Store

Case Details:

Looking to ID the pictured individual who entered a convenience store in Cambridge and after asking the clerk for change, brandished a handgun and told the clerk to hand over money from the register. If you have any information about the identity of this person or where he is, please contact:

Investigator: Det. Brian O'Connor
(617) 349-3370

Robbery

April 15, 2013

Cambridge: Bank

Case Details:

On Monday, April 15, 2013 at approximately 9:25am, an unknown black male robbed a bank on Mass Ave in Cambridge. The suspect passed the teller a note demanding money and threatening that he had a firearm. The suspect is described as a black male in his 30s, 5'5" tall, medium build.

Investigator: Det. Tom Flynn
(617) 349-3370





BURGLARY

No Patterns

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

+22%

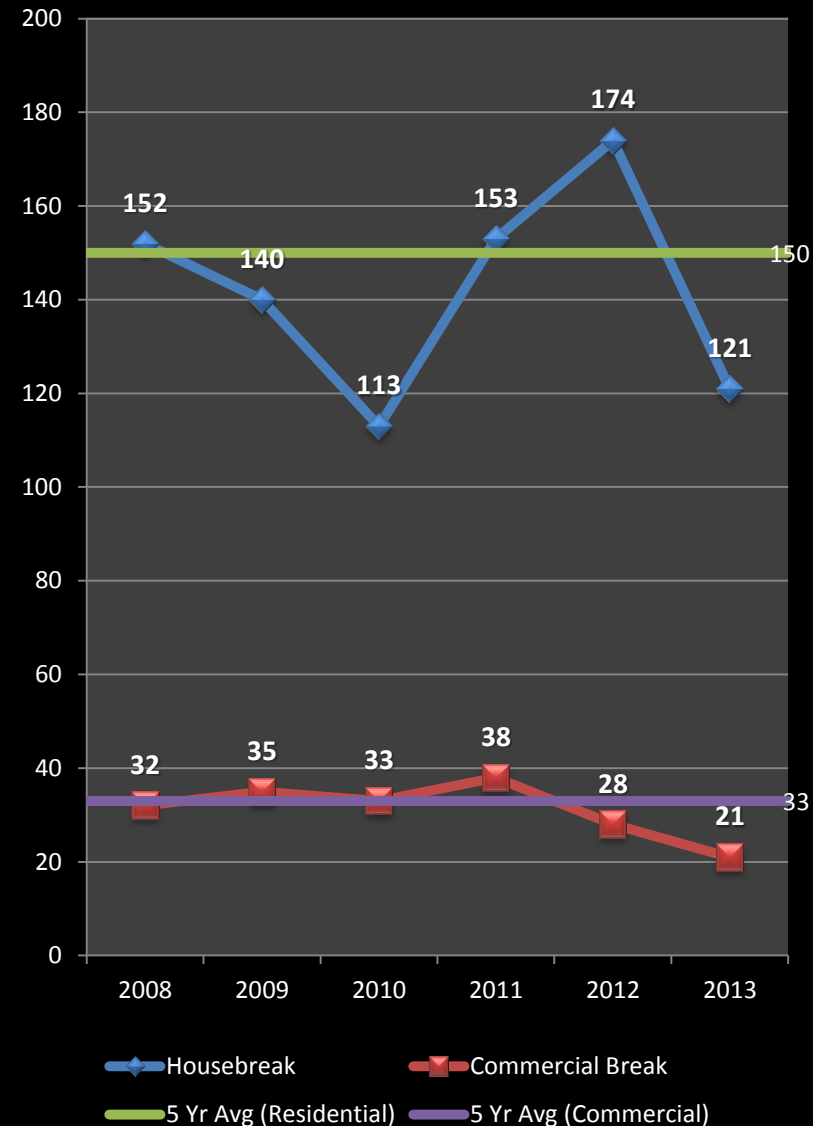
Previous Year

-30%

5 Year Average

-22%

- Over the first five months of 2013, there were 142 total burglaries (the combination of residential and commercial burglaries) reported in Cambridge. This number is down 30% when compared to last year during this time period and is 22% lower than the five-year average of 183.
- Commercial burglary has dropped 25% when compared with 2012, with seven fewer incidents reported, and has dropped 36% when measured against the five-year average.
- Residential burglaries ("housebreaks") are down 30% from the first five months of 2012. The series of daytime breaks in the 300 to 400 blocks of Columbia St and Elm St during March and April appears to have been eradicated. The pattern of daytime breaks along the Somerville / Cambridge border has also abated over the past month.





LARCENY

Emerging Patterns

- Overall, **larceny year-to-date has decreased by 18%** when compared with the same time frame in 2012 and is down 16% when measured against the five-year weighted average for this time frame.
- The **decrease in larceny from motor vehicles (-28%)** compared to 2012 can likely be attributed to arrests in January and snow storms in February and March. The most active area for thefts from MVs is currently in Agassiz and Peabody.
- Larcenies from persons citywide have declined 15%** from 2012, but this crime type is up 63% in May 2013 when compared to April. Thefts from patrons at bars/restaurants (dipper activity) in Harvard Square rose from three in April to fourteen in May, while this type of activity in Central Square rose from zero incidents in April to five in May.
- Larcenies from buildings are up 4% over 2012, after having been down 12% at the end of March.** A re-emergence of thefts from lockers at health clubs in April was partly to blame for the increase. There were eight of these thefts in April but only four in May, contributing to the 49% drop in larcenies from buildings in May compared to the previous four weeks.
- In 2013, there have been **75 bike thefts** to date to equal a 23% decline from the 2012 total of 95 through the same time frame. There have been 33 bike thefts reported since the beginning of May. The majority of the thefts in 2013 have taken place in the lower half of the city.

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

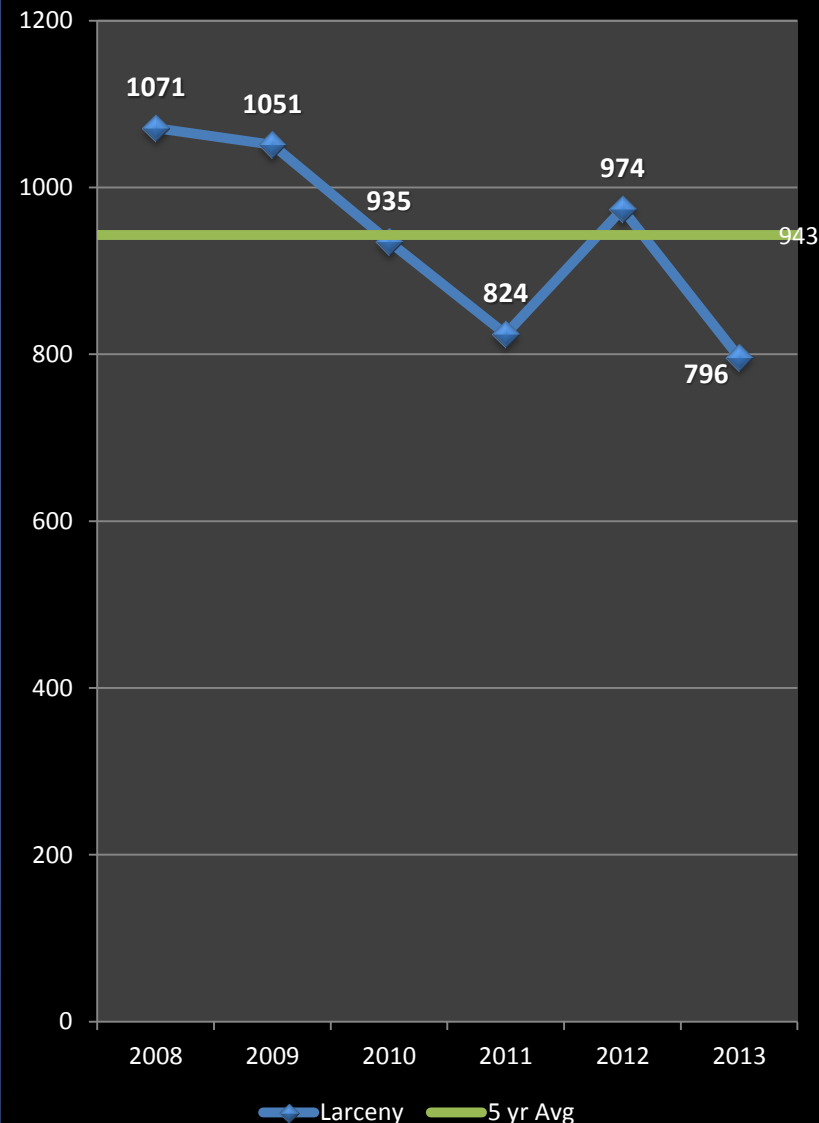
+3%

Previous Year

-18%

5 Year Average

-16%





LARCENY: *from MV*

Emerging Patterns

- For the first five months of 2013, larcenies from MVs **are down 28%** when compared with the same time frame in 2012, with **76 fewer thefts recorded**. Larcenies from MVs have **fallen 33%** when compared with the five-year average, with **94 fewer incidents than** the projected total. The large drop in larcenies from MVs citywide can likely be attributed to the arrest of two people committing these crimes in January and the multiple snow storms that buried the area in February and March.
- The decrease measured for this crime during the first quarter continues during the Spring with a 22% decline registered from April to May of this year.
- The most active area for thefts from MVs is currently in Agassiz and Peabody. There were 25 thefts reported in these two neighborhoods in during April and May, mainly on Wednesday and Thursday nights through unlocked doors, targeting loose change. Over the past three weeks, extra patrols have been effective in curtailing this activity.
- An arrest of a prolific juvenile offender in May appears to have eradicated an emerging pattern in the neighborhoods adjacent to Central Square.

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

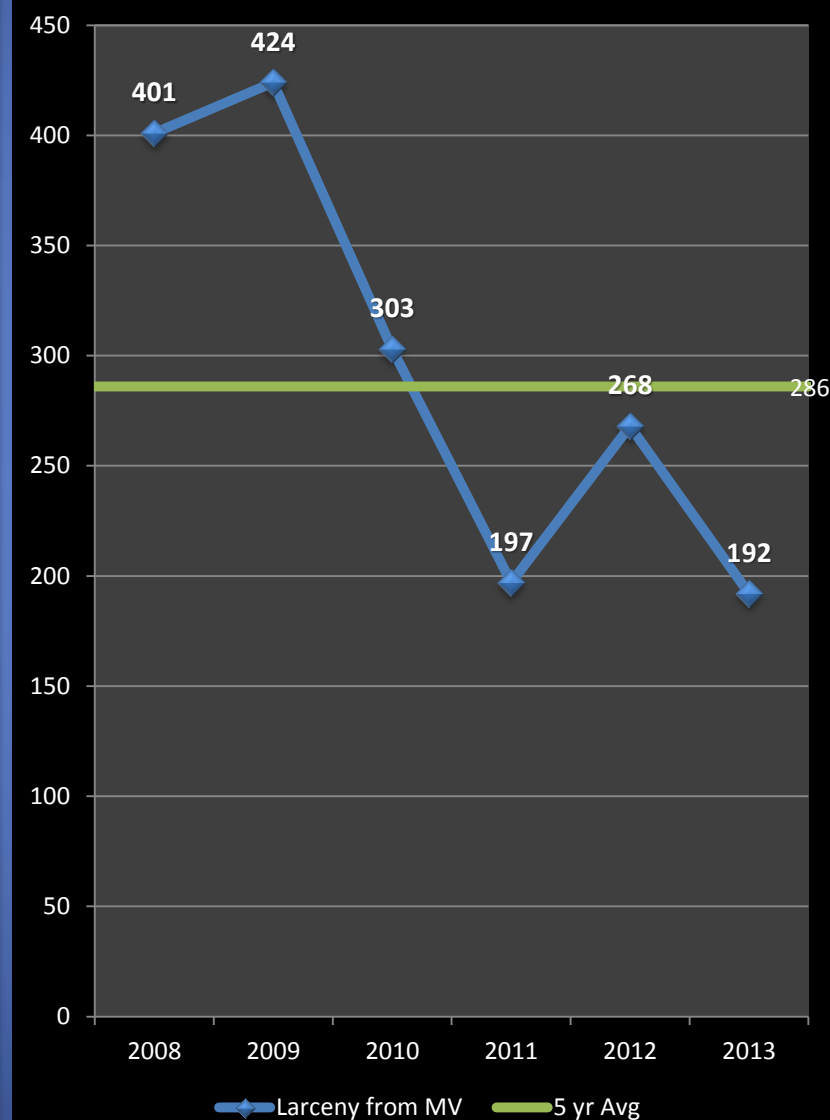
-22%

Previous Year

-28%

5 Year Average

-33%

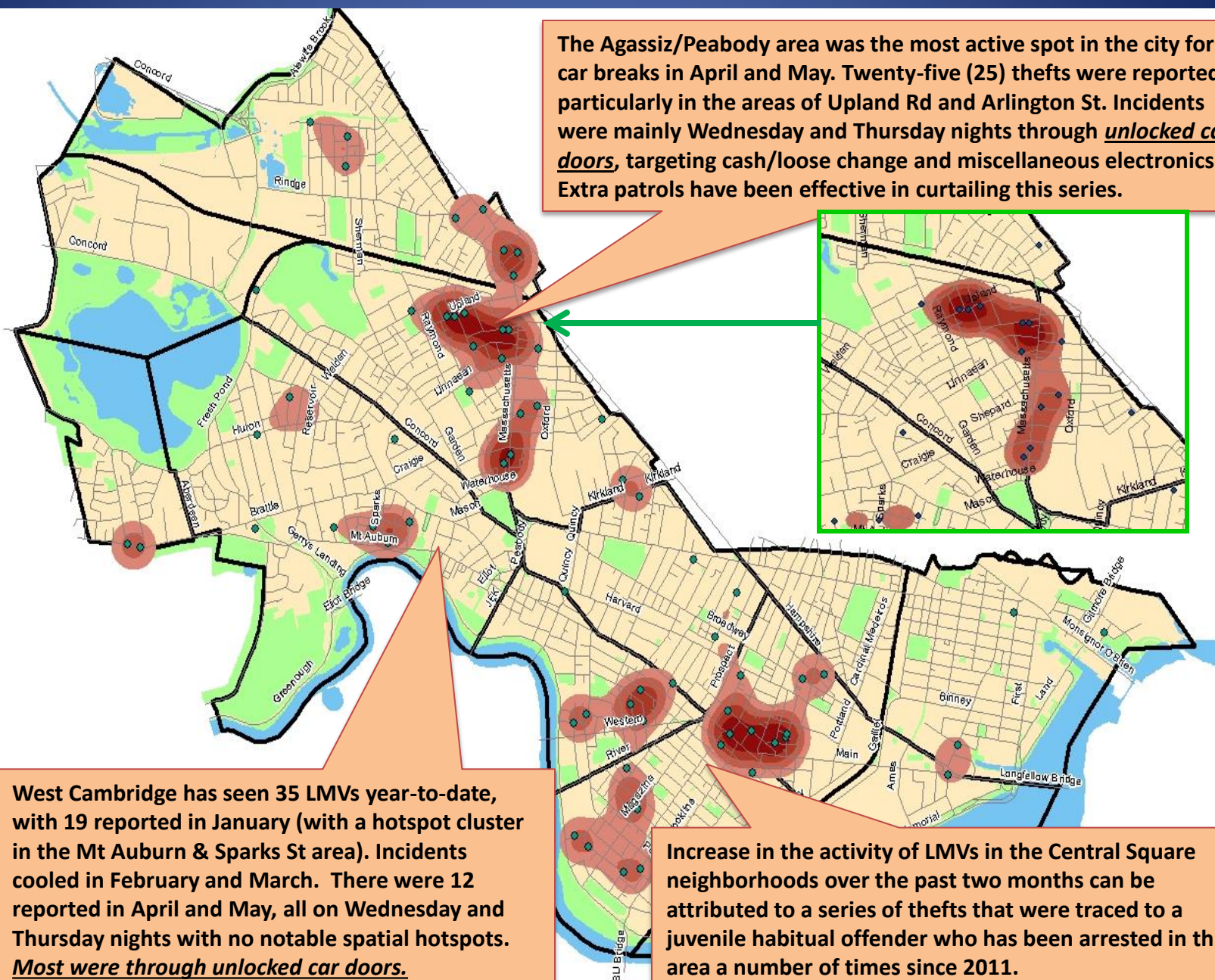




LARCENY from MV Activity: 4/1/13 to 6/3/13

Cambridge Police BridgeStat

May
2013





Larceny from Motor Vehicles

What can we do?

Police Response Strategy:

- Cambridge Police are focused on prevention of these crimes by increasing officer visibility in targeted areas.
- Citizens are encouraged to take the proper precautions to protect their vehicles and their belongings by doing everything possible to not make their vehicles easy targets.



Citizen Response Strategy:

- Citizens are asked to take the following precautions to protect themselves, their vehicles, and their belongings from theft:
 - Make sure all of your car doors are locked when you leave your vehicle.
 - Take extra care when out doing your shopping.
 - If you are **approached by a suspicious person** while you are in your vehicle, **sound your horn to attract attention.**
 - **NEVER LEAVE VALUABLES EXPOSED IN YOUR CAR.**
 - If you must leave packages or valuables in your car, **place them in the trunk of under a blanket to conceal them**
 - Visit our website for more tips to keep your vehicles and belongings at www.CambridgePolice.org/SafetyTips



LARCENY: *from Person*

Emerging Patterns

- When comparing the first five months of 2013 to the same time frame in 2012, larcenies from persons are down 15%. The total of 134 incidents reported thus far in 2013 is also 3% lower than the five-year average of 138.
- In the past four weeks, larcenies from the person have risen 63% from 19 in April to 31 in May. Harvard Sq usually accounts for a large portion of these incidents at the many bars and restaurants in the Square (known as "dipper" activity), and May was no exception with 14 thefts (up from 3 in April). Hot times were from 12:00 – 2:00 p.m. on Sundays through Tuesdays, and midnight to 2:00 a.m. on weekends. We often seen an increase in this type of crime in May around the time of Harvard's graduation and other large gatherings in the area.
- There were also five thefts from patrons at bars and restaurants in Central Sq in May, up from zero in April.
- Church thefts citywide dropped from six in April to zero in May.

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

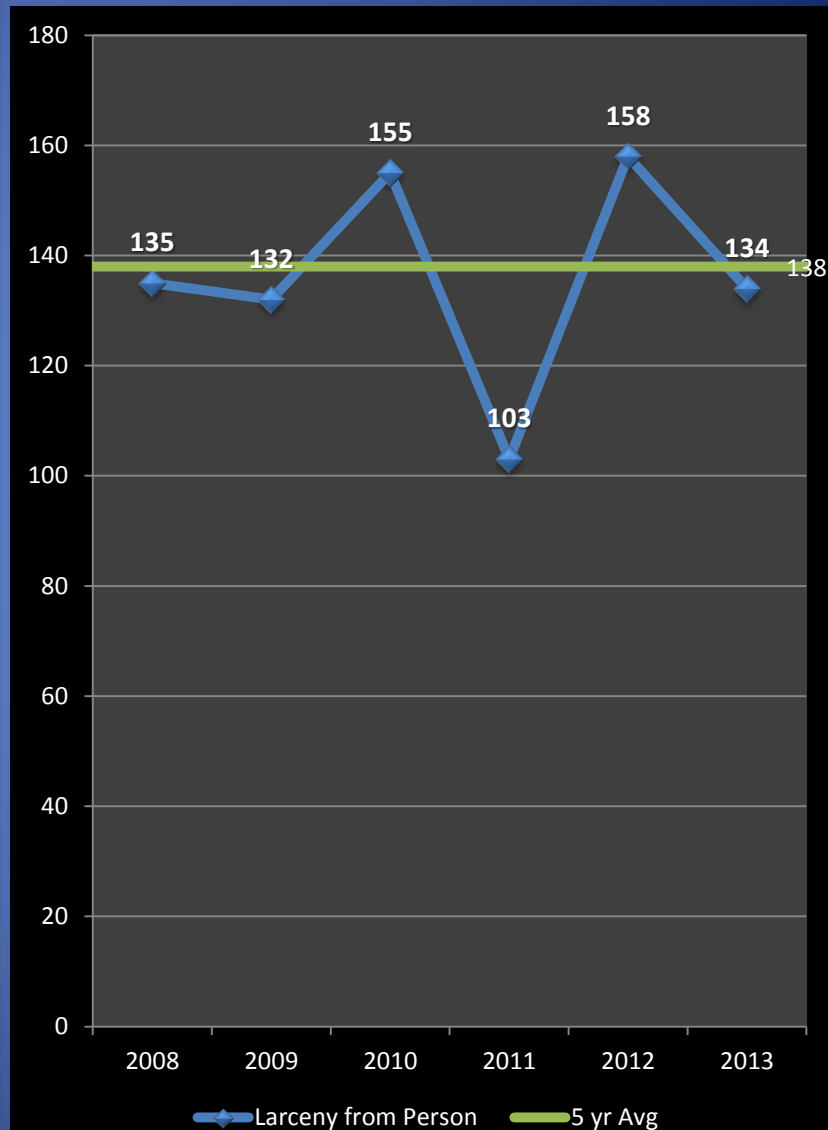
+63%

Previous Year

-15%

5 Year Average

-3%





LARCENY: of Bicycle

No Patterns

- Eighty (80) thefts is the five-year weighted average for the first five months of the year for larceny of bicycles. At this point in 2013, there have been 75 bikes stolen, which translates to a 6% reduction. Mirroring trends from past years, the majority of thefts are bicycles that are locked but are left out in the open (locked to public bike racks or sign poles, for example).
- It should be noted that 52 of the 75 bike thefts reported thus far in 2013 occurred in April or May, accounting for close to 70% of this year's total.
- Seventy-two percent (72%) of the bike thefts in 2013 took place in the lower half of Cambridge (below Harvard Sq). The neighborhoods that have reported the highest number of thefts this far in 2013 are: Mid Cambridge (19), Cambridgeport (14), and Inman/Harrington (12).

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

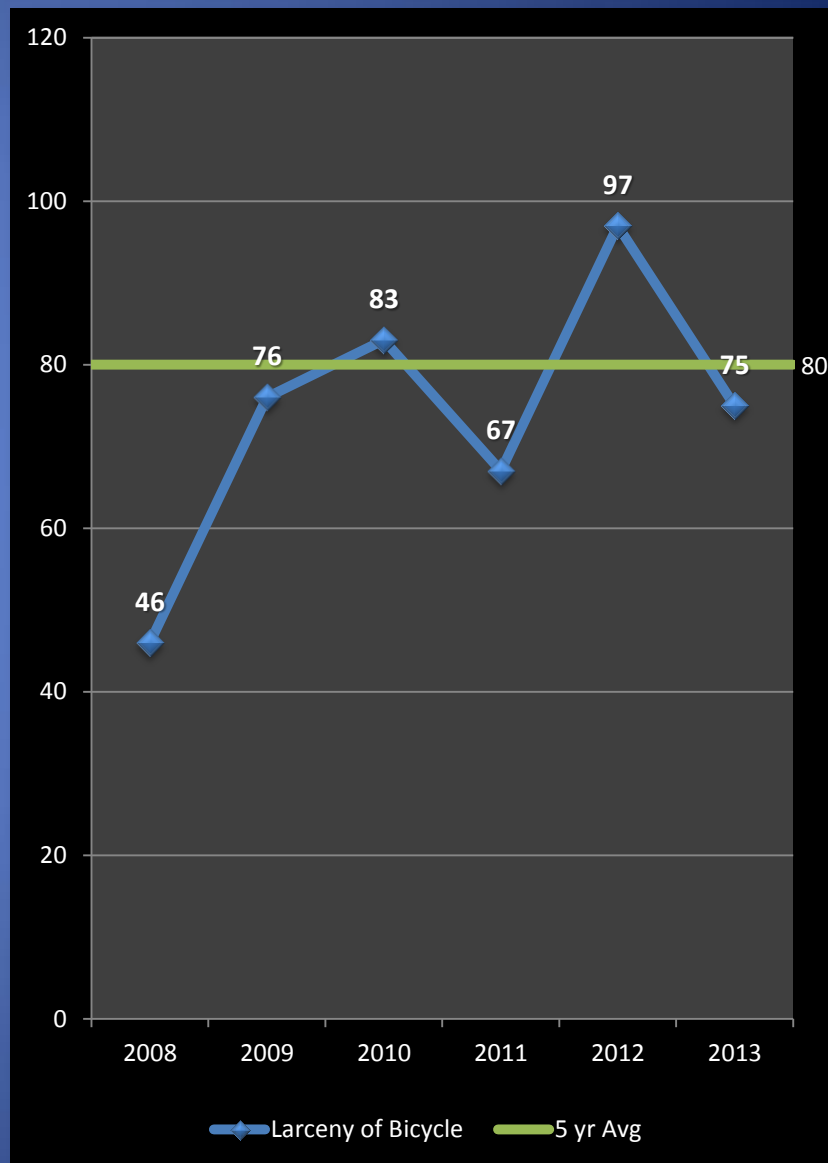
+9%

Previous Year

-23%

5 Year Average

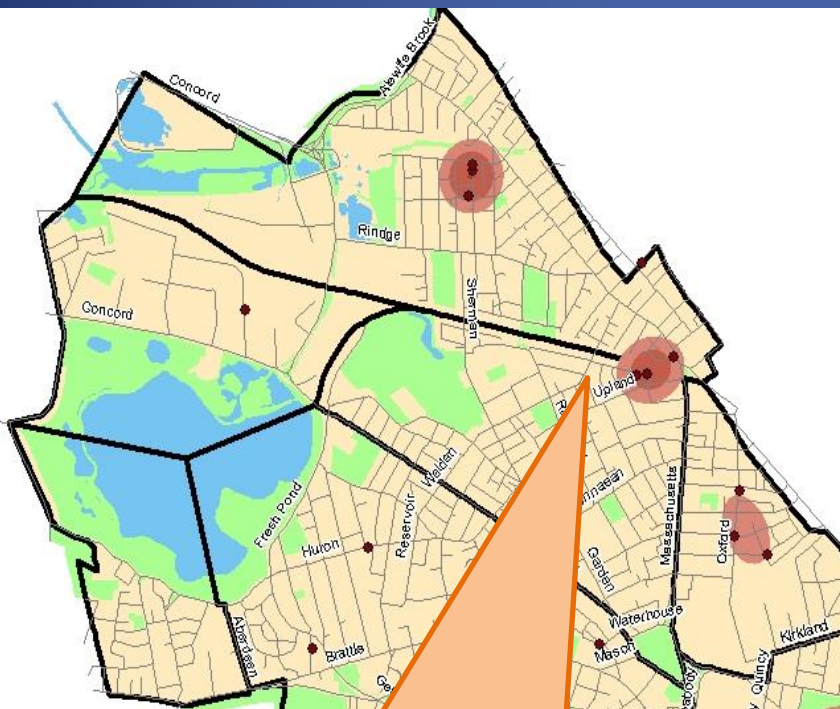
-6%





Larceny of Bicycle Activity: 4/1/13 to 6/3/13

Cambridge Police BridgeStat

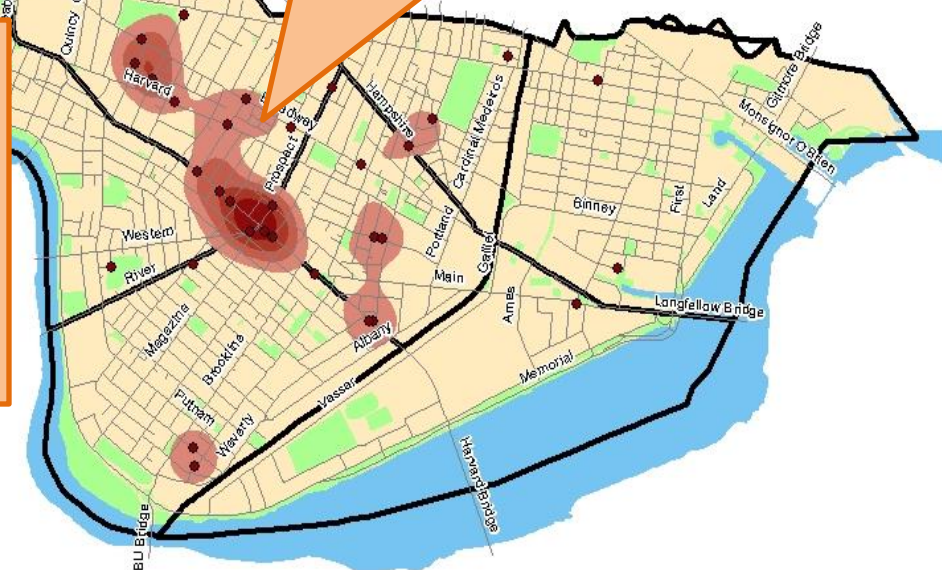


North Cambridge / Porter Square :

Majority of thefts near Porter Square and North Cambridge last summer were during the month of June and were on weekend nights. Only sporadic activity registered so far in 2013.

Central Square / Mid - Cambridge

This area was the the bike theft Hot Spot last summer and that trend has continued during April and May of this year. Temporal trend identified of multiple incidents on weekends in the 500 to 700 block of Mass Ave. One arrest of homeless subject stealing bike from rack near YMCA. The highest % of thefts from yards and porches occurs in the Mid - Cambridge neighborhood.





Larceny of Bicycles:

What Can We Do?

Police Response Strategy:

- Bicyclists stopped for infractions will be reminded to use lights when biking at night, wear helmets under the age of 16, and other safety tips to promote safer biking in the city.



Citizen Response Strategy:

- Bicyclist are encouraged to record their bike's serial number as well as take a picture of their bike to provide to police in the event that it is lost or stolen.
- For information on bicycle safety, visit: www.CambridgePolice.org/CommunityResources.
 - Click on the "Bicycle Safety and Registration" link.
- Stores should be vigilant in recording serial numbers and customer information on sales.
- Universities should encourage students to register their bikes and distribute information on the correct locking procedures.



AUTO THEFT

No Patterns

- The projected five-year weighted average for auto thefts for the first five months of the year is 60 incidents; there have only been 35 vehicles reported stolen thus far in 2013, translating to a 42% decline. When measured against this time frame in 2012, there have been 18 fewer auto thefts counted, equaling a 34% drop. Only seven vehicles have been stolen in the past four weeks, down 30% from the previous four-week total of ten.
- Since the beginning of the year, Mid-Cambridge has experienced the most auto thefts citywide with ten incidents, accounting for 29% of the year's total, followed by Riverside with six.
- Year to date, 46% (or 16) of the stolen motor vehicles have been recovered.
- ***Car not where you left it?*** Visit www.CambridgeMA.gov/TowedVehicles to search to see if your vehicle has been towed and where to locate it.

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

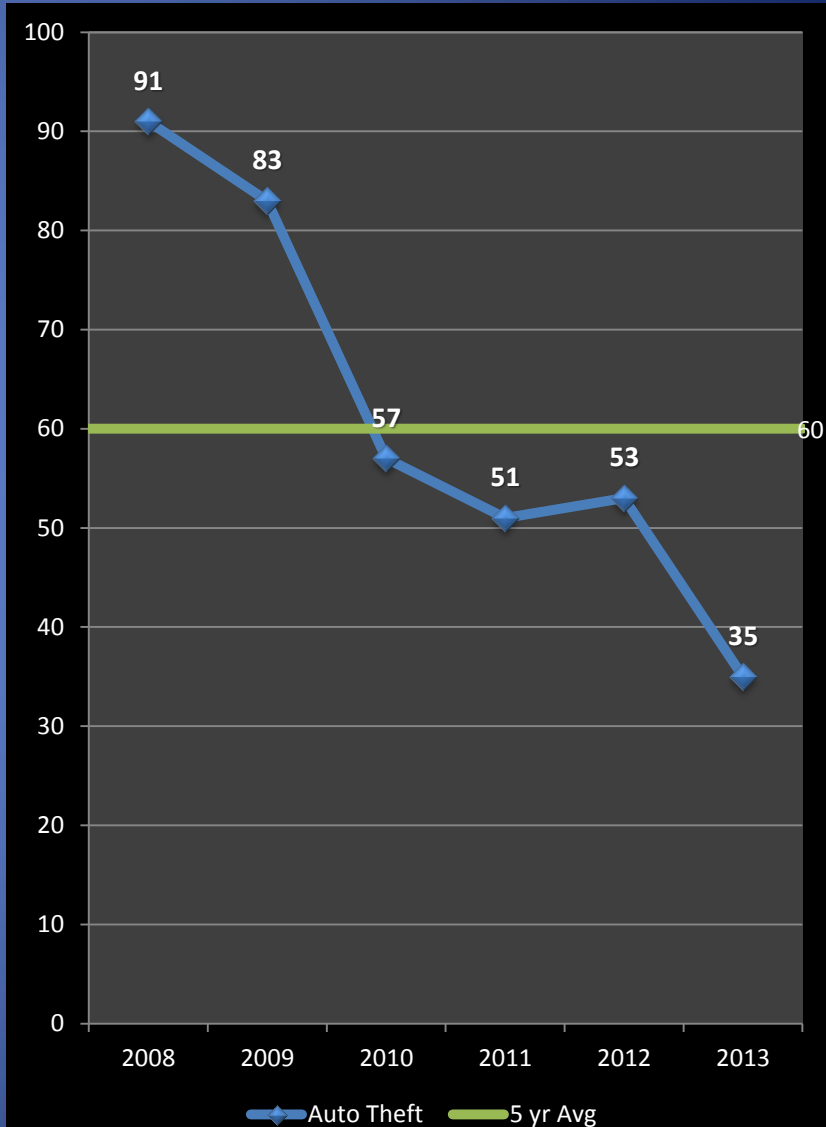
-30%

Previous Year

-34%

5 Year Average

-42%





Community Awareness

Utility Phone Scam

There have been nearly 30 regional phone scams since the first of the year where a suspect posing as a utility company demands payment or they will terminate services. The suspect normally instructs the victim to purchase Green Dot cards and provides serial numbers to the caller. In two incidents, an individual visited the business and threatened to cut the power. In several incidents, the caller appears to have knowledge of the normal billing cycle and amount for the victim, making it seem more realistic. There are several names and numbers that are associated with the scam, but the callers seem to vary from incident to incident.

Cambridge has experienced seven incidents that may possibly be related to this scam, the most recent of which occurred on 5/3/13.

Kidnapping Phone Scam

During mid-May, there was a brief increase in Kidnapping scams via telephone. The unidentified caller normally contacted a family member stating that another family member was being held captive for a sum of money. The caller had basic knowledge of the alleged victim. None of the victims in this scam were ever actually kidnapped.



Help Prevent Crime

And keep yourself informed!

To receive information from the CPD:

- Sign up with for the **Cambridge Alert Network**, to receive alerts about emerging crime patterns, neighborhood meetings, and crime prevention tips, by visiting www.CambridgeMa.gov/AlertNetwork.
- “Like” the Cambridge Police Department on Facebook at www.facebook.com/CambridgePolice
- Follow [@CambridgePolice](https://twitter.com/CambridgePolice) on Twitter.
- Visit our website at www.CambridgePolice.org for valuable information and reports including the Daily Log and BridgeStat, which is published on the first Friday of every month.
- Download our new “MyPD” smartphone app at www.CambridgePolice.org/MyPD.

To Share Information with the CPD:

- Call our Non-Emergency Telephone Number at **617-349-3300**.
 - Every call for service generates a police response, so help drive our resources by reporting things that seem suspicious or out of the ordinary.
- Send an Anonymous TEXT-A-TIP:
 - Send an ANONYMOUS text message to **Tip411 (847411)**. Begin your message with Tip650 and then type your message. You will receive a response from the Cambridge Police with the option to continue communicating. Please remember that this is not a replacement for 9-1-1. **If you witness an emergency situation, please call 9-1-1 immediately.**
- Send an Anonymous Crime Tip E-Mail at www.CambridgePolice.org/Tips



Questions?

- The complete 2012 Cambridge Police Annual Crime Report is available on our website at www.CambridgePolice.org.
- We welcome all questions, comments, and suggestions.
- Please direct your feedback to: BridgeStat@CambridgePolice.org.
- To review previous editions of BridgeStat, visit our website at www.CambridgePolice.org/BridgeStat.